

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are pending.

The Office action required restriction to one of 8 inventions defined by claim groups. Applicants elect the invention of Group I, drawn to methods comprising detecting an expression profile. Group I was identified in the Office action as including present claims 1-9, 19 and 20.

With respect to claims 4 and 5, the Office action further required restriction to one gene or one combination of genes set forth in Table 1 and Table 5b. Applicants elect secreted frizzled-related protein 1 (SFRP1), disclosed in Table 1 and discussed in paragraphs [0050] – [0054], but traverse the non-allowance of the linking claims, including at least claims 1-4, 6-9, 19 and 20, which are not limited to a single gene or combination of genes.

The Office action further required election of methods that detect either polynucleotides, proteins, or protein activity. Applicants elect methods that detect polynucleotides, but traverse the non-allowance of the linking claims, including claims 1-9, 19 and 20, which are not limited to detection of polynucleotides.

Examiner Myers is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: June 30, 2006

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